

Workshop 1 – General Sessions – VERSION 1.pdf

Date of Document: February 18, 2006

**PRELIMINARY MEETING NOTES
WORKSHOP 1 : LISTEN
Day 1 : General Session**

CONSULTANT TEAM	PROJECT	California Indian Heritage Center	EDAW PROJ. NO.	05010010.02
EDAW INC 150 CHESTNUT STREET SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94111 TEL 415.433.1484 FAX 415.788.4875 www.edaw.com	MEETING DATE	January 9, 2006	CODE	N-01-v1
RAA INC 88 PINE STREET, 29FL NEW YORK, NY 10005 TEL 212.334.8200 FAX 212.334.6214 www.raany.com	TIME	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	LOCATION	Sacramento, California
MCA INC 1045 SANSOME STREET SUITE 200 SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94111 TEL 415.398.6944 FAX 415.398.6943 www.cavagnero.com	PRESENT	Consultant Team (CT) Jacinta McCann, EDAW Alma Du Solier, EDAW Ralph Appelbaum, RAA Francis O'Shea, RAA Ilona Parkansky, RAA Mark Cavagnero, MCA Laura Blake, MCA Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Walter Gray (CIHCTF member) Pauline Grenbeaux Paulette Hennum Maria Baranowski Dan Striplen Cristina Gonzalez Leo Carpenter Gina Diaz CIHC Task Force (TF) Larry Myers (Pomo), CIHC Task Force Chair Gen Denton (Miwok) Jack Norton (Hupa/Cherokee) Bill Mungary (Paiute/Apache) Timothy Bactad (Kumeyaay) Susan Hildreth, State Librarian Cindy Alvitre (Tongva), (absent) Advisory Groups (AG) (*see attachment) Collections Management Contemporary Arts Cultural/Outdoor Programming Libraries, Research, and Archives Interpretive Themes Operations	SUBJECT	CIHC Master Plan Kickoff Workshop

Overall Notes, Day 1
CIHC Programming & Master Plan Workshop #1

Background

On January 9 and 10, 2006, design consultants, State Parks staff, and Indian advisory groups convened for a two-day workshop to launch the programming phase of the California Indian Heritage Center project. The objectives of the workshop were to start to define interpretive, educational, and institutional goals, define the Institution's personality, and look at potential interpretive programming. The following notes document the first day of the workshop.

Proceedings

1. Kickoff and Advisory Group Introductions

Gen Denton officially opened the meeting with a traditional Indian blessing.

Jacinta McCann (JM) of EDAW described the focus and tone of the workshop. The goal is to listen, learn, and define an initial framework for CIHC so the consultant team (CT) can successfully launch into the programming phase. The workshop will be an open forum where people should feel comfortable to speak, interact and ask questions.

Larry Myers (LM), Chair of the CIHC Task Force (TF), introduced the project and the role of the CIHC Task Force. LM said that the next few days represent a serious effort to enter the masterplanning phase. CIHC is taking a major step in developing something that Indian people can be proud of.

LM asked the TF members to introduce themselves: Bill Mungery (Paiute/Apache), Chairperson, Native American Heritage Committee; Gen Denton (Miwok), Sierra Native Council; Walter Gray, Collections/State Parks; Susan Hildreth, State Librarian; Jack Norton (Hupa/Cherokee), Humboldt State University; Tim Bactad (Kumeyaay), San Diego City Council; Larry Myers (Pomo), CIHC Task Force Chair, Executive Secretary, Native American Heritage Committee. Cindy Alvitre (Tongva) was unable to attend the workshop. **For more detailed information about Task Force members, please see attachments.*

JM explained that the function of the CIHC Advisory Groups (AG) is to provide specialist input to the project team. JM suggested that it might be better to call them “advisory circles” because they are forums for sharing knowledge and ideas. JM invited the AG members to introduce themselves: Collections Management; Contemporary Arts; Cultural/Outdoor Programming; Interpretive Themes, Libraries, Research, and Archives; Operations; and finally, members of the public who attended the introductory session. **For more detailed information about Advisory Group members, please see attachments.*

2. Consultant Introductions

Ralph Appelbaum Associates is a New York–based interpretive design and planning firm with 25 years experience and over 200 built projects. RAA has planned and designed indigenous and Native American projects in Oklahoma, Hawaii, Arizona, and Alaska.

Ralph Appelbaum (RA), RAA’s Principal, introduced the firm and shared his aspirations for the project. RA said, “If you respect the land and take care of the land it will take care of you.” RA suggested that this could be a good metaphor for the project. The goal is to enrich human experience, and this is an opportunity to share what Indian people hold dear and pass it on to the next generation. Once again, songs, languages, and stories will be heard on this site. We (AG, CT, and DSP) are here to listen to each other and share our hopes and expectations for the project. We must be honest, ethical, open, and aspiring. We must be imaginative, gentle, and inspiring. The consultants are facilitators who will help create a culture of excellence, and help communicate the desires of the Indian people to the State. We live in a time when values are disappearing, and communities are breaking up. Now there is finally a chance to get traction on an idea that has been around for 30 years. **RAA Associate Francis O’Shea and RAA Content/Media Coordinator Ilona Parkansky will also be part of the RAA project team.*

Mark Cavagnero Associates (MCA) is a San Francisco based architecture firm with nearly twenty years experience. The firm has completed a wide range of architectural and masterplanning projects including institutional, nonprofit, and commercial projects. Mark Cavagnero (MC), MCA’s Principal, introduced the firm and stated that much of MCA’s work is in the area of planning and designing cultural facilities. MC noted that people often question the time and energy put into planning work, but the most successful projects begin with a programming effort where vested parties come to an agreement on shared goals and desired outcomes. **MCA Associate Laura Blake will also be working on the MCA project team.*

EDAW Project Director Jacinta McCann (JM) introduced EDAW as a California-based firm whose roots are in San Francisco, dating back to 1939. EDAW's founder authored the first open space plan for California in the 1960s. EDAW does landscape architecture and planning, with an interest in culture. As part of the CIHC consultant team, EDAW will focus on understanding the possibilities and constraints of the site. **Project Manager Alma Du Solier will also be part of the EDAW project team.*

3. Project History, Current Status, and Future

Larry Myers (LM) described the history of the project. LM said that there are many interested parties (state, city, county), and many people dedicated to protecting and preserving the land. In 2002, the legislature created the TF and assigned it several tasks including the selection of a site for CIHC. The AG's were developed to inform the TF, who advises DPR. TF and DPR put out a solicitation for site proposals indicating that it required ~100 acres, proximity to water, and access to a critical mass of population. TF selected the current site from an initial group of ten candidates. The Northgate site was selected by the TF as the preferred site.

LM said that this stage of the project should build off the 1991 *California Indian Museum Study* because our priority is to move forward with the masterplan and put "fruit on the vine" so that stakeholders can see that we mean what we are saying.

Walter Gray (WG) also discussed the origins of the project and the role of the Task Force. TF is responsible for selecting a site for the Center (accomplished) and offering recommendations with regard to governance of the project (ongoing process). In October 2003 the TF adopted a statement of purpose:

The California Indian Heritage Center honors the diversity and history of California Indian people by preserving cultural and tribal traditions, nurturing contemporary expressions, and facilitating research and education for California, the nation, and the world.

CIHC is under the governance of the California Indian people, and DPR is a collaborator with the Indian community. The collaboration will rely on a combination of DPR's competency in institutional operations and California Indians' knowledge of their own culture, history, and values. Indians and DPR will work together to fulfill the vision expressed by the California Indians. The next challenge is how to fulfill the vision? How do we move ahead?

WG described the evolution of the project. After decades of internal discussion, visioning, and concept-building, the project is moving toward an "outwardly-oriented" process by engaging architects and interpretive planners. The project is being transitioned from the TF to the consultants. The consultants will listen, understand, and synthesize the messages of the TF and AG's. The goal is not to reach complete agreement, but to adopt a process that is as fair and open as possible.

WG discussed opportunities and constraints of the selected Northgate site, two parcels of land on the North and South sides of the American River. Due to proximity to the water, facilities need to be at or above the flood protection height to ensure the safety and security of the cultural objects at the Center. The idea of a project that spans the river has been introduced. This approach would place the majority of the permanent facilities on the South side, and a more natural site would be developed on the North side of the river. The two sides could be joined via a footbridge. It is important to maintain a "light footprint" on the North side. It should be characteristic of the way people have lived on the river for thousands of years. WG mentioned Portland and Redding river parks/developments as possible models for this project.

4. Consultant Team Presentation (Led by JM)

The main tasks of the consultant team will be to confirm the size, scale, and budget, as well as present design and interpretation plan options for CIHC. These elements will be included in the master plan.

Project Background — A large amount of hydrology related data is available; the 1991 study should serve as a foundation for further development of the project; the 2003 Visioning Workshop resulted in a statement of purpose and vision for the project.

Process — The process will involve *ongoing* outreach to the community, experts, and advisors (CEA); feedback from CEA will inform interpretive programming by RAA, and masterplanning of facilities and outdoor space by EDAW and the consultant team.

Workshops — AG, TF, CT, DPR, and the public will be invited to attend three project workshops that will lead up to a final presentation of the masterplan in December 2006. Workshops are working meetings that provide opportunities for ongoing dialogue, feedback, and presentation of CT programming, design, and masterplanning work.

January 2006 (Workshop #1): Establish interpretive mission and goals.

April 2006 (Workshop #2): Present initial interpretive program and options.

August 2006 (Workshop #3): Present preferred solutions.

December (Presentation): Present final solution.

EDAW Projects — NMAI/DC, Beale Street Landing, Oakland Waterfront Trail, Portland Waterfront, Tuolumne River Park

RAA Projects — Ralph Appelbaum (RA) started his presentation with an anecdote: “Put the big rocks in first, or they won’t fit in later.” This metaphor was used again throughout the two days. RAA Projects presented included Te Papa, New Zealand; Native American Cultural Center and Museum, Oklahoma; Museum of Natural History, Utah; Anchorage Museum of History and Art, Alaska; Aztec Mexico, AMNH, New York; Heard Museum, Arizona; National Museum of Prehistory, Taiwan; Indiana State Museum, Indiana; Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C; William J. Clinton Presidential Center, Arkansas.

MCA Projects — California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, California; Walnut Creek Arts Education Center Master Plan, Walnut Creek, California; Palo Alto Art Center, San Francisco, California; Oakland Museum, Oakland, California; Finn Center, Mountain View, California.

5. Precedents and Case Studies

RA presented a selection of RAA projects that illustrate the range of thematic, physical, and programmatic possibilities for CIHC. The presentation was intended to explain the programming process and introduce “big” ideas and techniques such as the use of iconic elements, theaters, the layering of voices and perspectives.

6. Advisory Group Breakout Sessions

**See specific notes for each AG*

7. Breakout Group Presentations

A representative from each Advisory Group presented a summary of the group’s discussion.

Interpretive Themes (Presented by Connie Reitman (Pomo), Director, Intertribal Council of California, Inc.)

The group brings a variety of individual experiences to the table. We recognize the respect that we have for each other and work we've done in our lives. Connie (CR) said that we must approach the project with honesty, integrity, truth, sharing, caring, and generosity. There are some things that need to be brought to the public's attention so that they will not happen again to our people, or to other people.

CR presented the substantive conclusions of the group:

- Recognize the genocide.
- Share our vision of pre-contact history.
- Show how our culture can be shared through stories/oral traditions and creation myths.
- Explore how Indian people experience Generations — those that have come before us, and future generations, from a tribal perspective).
- Look at historical perspectives; gold rush, public policy, boarding schools.
- Talk about the traditions, values, and practices that allowed us to survive the genocide and begin to recover from what happened to us.
- Look at the colonization and survival. Look at flow of thinking, from generation-to-generation perspective.
- Baskets — used for healing, to carry water, hold food, commerce, and trade. Survived over thousands of years because of how we applied our beliefs and practices.
- Seasons — an issue that is relevant to the site. Look at conditions that affect how/where we choose to live (moving from Sierra, to valley, to lakeshore; recognize how Indians survive in our environment by understanding it).
- Impact of public policy such as relocation and termination.
- People and place — By working together and having respect for each other we are able to have successful coexisting communities.
- Awareness of environment — listening to environment and learning from it.
- How can a group of conquered people begin to tell their story? Give the survivors perspective and be able to tell the truth.
- Using timelines — helping to tell the story. Not always joyful, but must be real.
- Develop guidelines for use of cultural artifacts — display of funerary items that were buried with people. Need to adhere to how Native people feel about exhibiting their funerary items. Those things need to be brought home and blessed. This is not intruding, or getting in the way of, but taking on different perspectives.
- Maps, language groups
- Issues affecting us today – groups that are no longer federally recognized
- It is not over; we are still living this disregard and disrespect by public policy.

CR ended the presentation with a few important messages:

We must respect the spiritual, traditional, healing protocols of tribes that populated the area prior to colonization. These people still live here and still practice traditional ways. We recognize that it is important to acknowledge and to be aware of what local people feel will be required to heal the land. We must listen to the spiritual leaders. Need to document what has happened historically and also lay the groundwork for future generations.

“Our people suffered long and our people survived.” It is because of the respect and blessings of our own people that we were able to reestablish the practices of a people that have been long overlooked. That's why we dedicate our time to the continuing evolution of the museum.

Outdoor Programs (Presented by Alma Du Solier, EDAW)

Leo Carpenter put together a list of nine “big rock” suggestions gathered from representative tribes about how the Center should address outdoor programming. The Outdoor Advisory Group talked about the character of each to ensure it addresses the needs of all different tribes, and educates non-Indians.

Some overarching ideas about outdoor/cultural programming:

- The outdoor area needs to be nameless and faceless.
- We should create a space that is neutral, safe and comfortable, so people don't feel they are invading someone else's space.
- It should be welcoming, so you feel you are home.
- CIHC's relationship of outdoor programming should reflect Indians' relationship to nature. We should restore the native vegetation, embrace the river, and take a natural approach (not manicured).

1. Regional Villages

- How do we deal with the vast differences in Indian villages?
- Should they be permanent or seasonal/changing?
- Do we create a real village or rely on the indoor exhibit to explain the nature of Indian villages, and encourage people to go to the real environment?
- Should we recreate whole villages or extract parts (demonstrate how it was built, water rafts, aspects)?

2. Roundhouses

- Should there be a traditional or representative roundhouse?
- If there is a roundhouse, should take on a neutral, abstract shape (non-traditional)?
- If there is a traditional roundhouse, who will take care of it?
- It should provide shelter from rain, etc.

ADS said that the group planned to discuss the remainder of the nine points the next day.

Collections and Contemporary Art (Presented by Francis O'Shea, RAA, and Paula Allen)

CIHC should feel timeless, dynamic (changing), and accessible to the community. CIHC should express the uniqueness of the collection to California Indians, and address Indians' contributions to culture.

The group identified some important themes/metaphors for CIHC:

- *Baskets* — Are used from birth to death; are used to teach children; represent California Indians' worldview; and the basket collection reflects California history.
- *History* — The collection can tell the history of California Indians.
- *Loss of Land* — Access to materials is important because many tribes have lost their land and their things.
- *Sense of Place* — This is a challenging issue to address in displays since Indians traditionally don't go into each other's space. We should symbolically acknowledge the people in this area.
- *Genocide* — This is an important issue that needs to be addressed.

We need to use contemporary art to tell our story, individual stories, history, and share our core values. The group felt that contemporary collections/art should not be separated from traditional art/artifacts, and that CIHC should use materials that make a light footprint on the land.

PA compared the digital puddle in RA's presentation to the real puddles that Indian children play in. There is no need to spend a lot of money on extraneous technology. The Indian people are the real draw. "We are a beautiful people who are just radiant. We are the draw."

PA concluded by stating that the Contemporary Arts and Collections Groups' "big rocks" are the core values, history, and genocide of native people.

Libraries, Archives, and Research (Presented by John Berry, U.C., Berkeley)

John summarized the main points from the group. Libraries and Archives should:

- Be THE resource point for information on history of Native people in California. They should be the reference point for onsite and offsite materials (some materials are at other institutions, poorly documented, and hard to access), to help both Native and non-Native people be informed.
- Provide research support for the other programs at CIHC: What's the best way to conserve something? What's the preferred method of delivery to a particular tribe? How do you avoid insulting people's sensitivities?
- Encourage and collect oral histories from Native people and communities. Encourage elders to share.
- Serve and provide technical training to tribes in library archive practices. Should go beyond walls into the community. People around the state/tribal libraries can contact CIHC for help.

JB concluded with the allegory of "rabbit and his dissertation advisor." The moral of the story is that we have some great advisors, so this will all come to fruition.

Jacinta McCann summarized the salient points made throughout the day:

- We need to respect the different traditions.
- We must heal the land.
- We can't leave out critical things relating to history and living culture.
- Keep thinking about the metaphor of rocks.

This has been a significant point in getting us started and focused on important issues and building the framework that we need. We will use day 2 to continue to discuss and resolve important issues.

ATTACHMENTS: TASK FORCE MEMBERS LIST (N10-att1-TaskForce.pdf), ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS LIST (N11-att2-AdvisoryGroups.pdf)

MINUTE PRODUCED BY: IP, RAA

DATE: JANUARY 18, 2006

END OF NOTES – WORKSHOP #1, DAY 1

NOTE: These notes represent understanding of the issues discussed and the agreements reached in the above-mentioned meeting. If no changes are made within 10 working days after the notes are issued, agreements expressed herewith will be considered final.

**PRELIMINARY MEETING NOTES
WORKSHOP 1 : LISTEN
Day 2 : General Session**

CONSULTANT TEAM	PROJECT	California Indian Heritage Center	EDAW PROJ. #	05010010.02
EDAW INC 150 CHESTNUT STREET SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94111 TEL 415.433.1484 FAX 415.788.4875 www.edaw.com RAA INC 88 PINE STREET, 29FL NEW YORK, NY 10005 TEL 212.334.8200 FAX 212.334.6214 www.raany.com MCA INC 1045 SANSOME STREET SUITE 200 SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA 94111 TEL 415.398.6944 FAX 415.398.6943 www.cavagnero.com	MEETING DATE	January 10, 2006	CODE	N-02-v1
	TIME	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	LOCATION	Sacramento, California
	PRESENT	Consultant Team (CT) Jacinta McCann, EDAW Alma Du Solier, EDAW Ralph Appelbaum, RAA Francis O'Shea, RAA Ilona Parkansky, RAA Mark Cavagnero, MCA Laura Blake, MCA Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) Walter Gray (CIHCTF member) Pauline Grenbeaux Paulette Hennum Maria Baranowski Dan Striplen Cristina Gonzalez Leo Carpenter Gina Diaz CIHC Task Force (TF) Larry Myers (Pomo), CIHC Task Force Chair Gen Denton (Miwok) Jack Norton (Hupa/Cherokee) Bill Mungary (Paiute/Apache) Timothy Bactad (Kumeyaay) Susan Hildreth, State Librarian Cindy Alvitre (Tongva), (absent) Advisory Groups (AG) (*see attachment) Collections Management Contemporary Arts Cultural/Outdoor Programming Libraries, Research, and Archives Interpretive Themes Operations	SUBJECT	CIHC Master Plan Kickoff Workshop

Overall Notes, Day 2

CIHC Programming & Master Plan Workshop #1

Background/Summary

On January 10, 2006 the group reconvened for the second day of the CIHC masterplan kickoff workshop. The day started with an open discussion. After all questions and concerns were aired, Gen Denton offered a prayer to open the workshop, and the Advisory Groups met for a second work session. The Groups were asked to organize their notes into three categories, Diversity, Practice, and Philosophy. After meeting, representatives from each group reported back to the larger group. At the end of the day, the session was opened to the public for summary presentations and closing remarks from the two days (Please see notes from Advisory Groups to review breakout discussions from both Day 1 and Day 2.)

Proceedings

1. Opening Session — Day 2

Workshop participants expressed their opinions and concerns about the workshop process. The following key points came up:

Randy Yonemura (RY) emphasized the need for an agreement stating that this is an Indian-guided project. RY also suggested the consultants visit Indian places to understand what Indian people want.

Bill Mungary (BM) reminded the group that a great deal of work had already been done to lay the groundwork for CIHC. BM said that there was already an agreement between the State and the Indian people that put the CIHC Task Force in a leadership role in the project. BM urged everyone to trust that the state would uphold that agreement.

Connie Reitman (CR) suggested that our top priority is to agree on shared values and principles. CR said that when we look at the 1991 study we should recognize that we are taking it to another level of development. As we shift gears, we need to incorporate some of the priorities and positions that this group of experts brings to the table. We are the driving force for how CIHC is to be developed and we want to offer the cultural perspective for how that developmental process can work. We want someone to hear what we're saying so that old mistakes are not repeated. CR commented that it might be difficult to use the 1991 study as a working tool because some of the Advisory Group members had not seen it.

Julie Holder (JH) stressed the need to learn to communicate with each other. JH said that Native People have a different approach to things and different sensibilities. It is important to acknowledge how Native People do things. We pray to come together in a united spirit. We need to bring our common interest to a point where we are working in harmony. JH asked that the State and the consultants "listen to our practice and help us bring you to the table." The dominant culture has always told us about ourselves; this is our opportunity to tell you about who we are. "Listen to our subtleties, honor our traditions, listen to us, and when you do that the shift will make us more comfortable, and then we will treat you the way we treat ourselves."

Paula Allen said that the state compromised their credibility by not introducing the required documents to all participants. PA stressed how important it is for the consultants, the state, and Indian advisors to build a mutual trust and respect for each other. Indian people should not feel like they're being "brought in through the back door." We are smart people who are emotionally tied to these issues. Indians are involved in their communities and in State politics in order to honor and preserve Native culture.

CIHC indicated copies of all relevant studies would be printed and available by the end of the day for those who had not received copies.

Gen Denton offered a prayer to start the second day of the workshop

2. Advisory Groups Breakout Session: Part II (Afternoon)

Advisory groups met for a second work session from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. **For detailed information about breakout sessions, please see breakout meeting notes.*

3. Breakout Session Presentations: Part II

Each advisory group chose a representative to report back to the larger group.

Interpretive Planning (Presented by Jack Norton)

Jack Norton (JN) thanked the members of the interpretive themes group for sharing their knowledge and he thanked Ralph Appelbaum for taking the group's ideas to another level.

Native People are emotionally involved in telling our stories. There are many painful and uplifting stories from the past and the present day. JN said that when we think about how to tell our story, we must keep in mind that most people do not know the truth of what happened to California Indians. He used the example of the Holocaust Museum, where a light shines down on the single shoe of one of the littlest victims. Would a light shining down on an Indian baby basket have the same effect? Everyone knows of the Holocaust, but people do not know the suffering of California Indians.

Jack stressed the importance of telling our story and telling it with *truth* and *integrity*. We need to keep in mind that the other side of genocide is survival. Our task should not seem insurmountable. Ninety-five percent of California Indians died of disease, murder and heartbreak but we survived because we hid babies in baskets in marshes, donned white man's clothes, and sang Christian songs.

JN said that today many Indian people are rediscovering their Native religions and languages. Jack is a singer and dancer for the Hupa tribe, and his daughter is learning the Yurok language. So there are many reasons to be proud and optimistic.

Jack spoke to the group about some key challenges and aspirations for CIHC interpretation. There are nearly a hundred other Indian museums in California. What would make this cultural center unique? What songs will it sing, what stories will it tell? Our task is daunting, but we all have a duty to recognize the energy and spirit that made us who we are.

- What story does the museum tell?
- How can we best use our resources?
- How can we tell a story of inhumanity that also relates the wonderful stories of survival?
- How can we tell the story of Indian sovereignty — we arose from the land?

Jack summarized the Interpretive Themes Advisory Group's discussion over the two days:

Messages/Philosophy

- This place is a testimony to our survival as a people
- The past *is* our future
- This place will tell our truth; you will hear our voices, our perspectives
- We will hear the spirit of the land; we will heal the land
- We will respect the protocol of Indian law

Themes/Diversity

- Baskets — A metaphor for the Indian way of life; a common thread among all California tribes; there are seven thousand baskets in the State collection
- Seasons/Direction — Orienting toward different directions; recognizing the importance of the process and prayer
- Oral tradition — Creation stories; generations — passing on tradition, values, craft
- Cultural sovereignty
- Political sovereignty
- Genocide — Tell the story in a powerful, emotional way, from an Indian point of view
- Perseverance — Survival; holding on to values through generations
- People and place — Indians' relationship to the land/environment
- Pre-contact history
- The modern day — Indians are still subject to a great deal of ignorance; traditions are being rediscovered by new generations

Approach/Character

- It's Emotional
- It's Personal

- It's Real
- It's Balanced
- It's Natural

Physicality

- Material — Natural material that signifies Indians' relationship with the environment
- Baskets — Use of design techniques and motifs seen on baskets
- Organic form — Alcove style; soft and welcoming; round forms
- Direction — An important quality of space for Indian people; the entrance of a home, placement of fire
- Age appropriateness — Should there be special areas for children?

Values

- Respect for nature
- Value of spirituality
- Respect for other people
- Awareness of cyclic nature of things — indigenous stories are repeating themselves
- Religion

Libraries, Archives, and Research (Presentation by John Berry, UC Berkeley)

John Berry (JB) presented a circular model that showed the intersection of private and public information. Library practice says that information is free and available to everyone. However, we must be aware that at CIHC there will be censorship. Not all stories are meant to be told to everyone, and not all knowledge is to be shared. Some knowledge is unique and sacred to men, woman, clans, families, or tribes.

JB summarized the Libraries, Research, and Archives Advisory Group's discussion:

Diversity

- Should encompass all tribes
- Environmental diversity/honor all tribes
- Mutual respect — We must not offend anyone in content, design, or knowledge that archives will hold. One solution might be to boil things down to simple symbolism and simple design — directions, earth, wind, fire
- Relocation and Indian issues
- Language and families

Philosophy

- Librarians as "caretakers"
- 21st century question — Use of technology and staying relevant
- Find documents — To tell the truth of what happened
- Birth certificates — Identity issues. Some people are "lost birds." We know they are our relations but they have no recognition
- Baskets — An important metaphor of life for California Indians; a way to express "living" culture

Design Ideas

- Circles
- Storytelling (possibly private, native storytelling spaces, and public spaces)
- Character of storytelling places (fire, seating)
- Dome/Sky (i.e., storytelling room in New Mexico with projected images)

Precedents

- Heard Museum — The grounds include dance circle spaces

- IAlA — Santa Fe — The layout of the buildings
- Kashaya Pomo Mendocino County — Roundhouse
- Yosemite Village — Point Reyes roundhouse
- Palm Springs Cultural Center — Agua Caliente

Process

- Need to develop an effective process; consider education and programming.

Programming

- Capacity to store different types of media (electronic, paper)
- Storage of sacred objects, language tapes (segregated storage space?)
- Visible storage (i.e., Boston Children's Museum)
- Public/Private blend of storage of sacred objects
- Photographs — how do we treat them? Does the institution own them, or do they belong to the people. How do we deal with their relatives (want copy, don't want other people to see)? How do we address in respectful and meaningful way?
- A "Genealogy Room" — give people back their names

Relationship

- Collections should be close to the center and accessible to all
- Access to historical documentation: admission records, church records, census records, national archive records, military, congressional, and Senate (land claims, veterans, health, kids taken to Indian schools)
- Should be accessible onsite and online

Collections and Contemporary Art (Presentation by Frank LaPena, Paula Allen, and Alexandra Harris)

1. Contemporary Art (Presented by Frank LaPena)

Statement

To exhibit document, promote, and catalogue and collect contemporary and traditional art, including all media (poetry, painting, video)

Diversity

- Encourage diversity of media
- Encourage inclusion of Native American artists from all areas of state and outside California, particularly those with a connection to California (to show influences that are shared)
- Design multimedia exhibition galleries (and create/pickup traveling shows)
- Encourage the use of natural materials within the building (intimate, warm, earthy colors, textures). It should feel like the traditional places. It should represent the feeling of California and its Native People
- Encourage a historical perspective in exhibitions. Show people that there is a history of Indian art, from the first rock paintings to the modern day

Practice

- Program permanent and traveling exhibits
- Create a space that allows for many different types of shows (veterans, honored elders)
- Create a space that gives artists a chance to do one-person shows
- Offer in-house studios for residency programs.
- Create an art library and resource center
- Include all types of contemporary art (video, multimedia, photography, etc)

Philosophy

- Collect, house, and promote living culture
- Maintain curatorial standards for high-quality art. Provide the space to do it correctly
- Provide adequate staffing
- Maintain the connection between traditional and contemporary art forms. Present art as a continuum

2. Collections Management (Presented by Alexandra Harris)

Statement

Resolve and clarify the ownership and policy issues related to the Collection. The largest issue is “who owns it?” A Collections policy needs to be written.

Diversity

- Encourage diversity of Collections including recording labs (oral histories), photo labs, and climate-controlled storage facilities
- Encourage a directive to fill in and grow the Collection through gifts, loans, acquisitions, and purchase. Be advocates for contemporary art, but acknowledge gaps in the Collection, and make sure everyone is represented

Practice

- Establish highest quality museological standards
- Conservation training programs — It’s a difficult process to be native in the museum field. It is important to have programming that brings in younger and older generations and makes them feel at home
- State of the art storage — have enough extra space
- Establish a community resource program. Create a rotation program so that the Collections can be on the move. Make sure that the CIHC collection is out in the community. Have fellowships and workshops that would bring in opportunities for education. Offer many opportunities for community involvement with our Collection.
- Establishing loans and visitation policies for private and international use.

Philosophy

- Encouraging rotation and loan of the Collection
- Encourage cultural and institutional sensitivity (include in policy; create a policy with integrity)
- Encourage oral history program as an ongoing link to the past with valuable lessons to teach both present and future.

Other Ideas

- Put a face on things — Tell a continuum of stories that complement the treasures on display.
- Veterans — Indian people feel very powerfully about honoring Indian veterans. Indians keep veterans’ things and take care of them. There should be a specific area for honoring veterans. It must be an important part of indoor and possibly outdoor program (similar to the Vietnam Veterans Wall; use the grounds, commission Native artists, etc.) It could also serve as a resource center for finding and tracing Indian veterans
- Value-driven Stories — Tell stories past, present and future, and always be value driven. Make people feel welcome and want to give/donate their things. We need to have enough storage to accept these things. If we build it in the right way with the right resources, people will come and they will use it
- Baskets — The basket is what connects all of these things. They will draw local, national, and international audiences. It’s what we’re known for and we should honor that tradition
- AND remember, there’s more to Native art than just baskets! ☺

Outdoor Programming (Presentation by Alma DuSolier, EDAW)

CIHC's open space has to be welcoming and safe for all the tribes of California. The space should be neutral while also acknowledging the local tribe(s).

Temporary facilities became a keystone in the discussion (events, fires, overnight facilities). Temporal facilities will ensure diverse use, open access, and facilitate ongoing change. This approach is in line with the idea of a "living museum." Younger generations can witness and learn as new things are built, so it becomes a key educational tool for transmitting cultural knowledge.

The outdoor program should also convey that tribes are connected. Outdoor programs should reflect that the individual tribes are unique, but they all have ways of connecting to each other.

ADu noted that the Outdoor programs group discussed structures and grounds the previous day, and focused the present day's discussion on demonstrations, native gardens, and events.

Native Gardens

- Should we make it native to the actual land?
- The garden is at the heart of Native People's lives; baskets, boats, regalia, and medicines come from the garden. The garden feeds other activities. The Center should convey that idea as soon as people enter

Events

- All event spaces should be flexible, allowing for different formats and sizes

Fires

- Fire is an element that is common to all tribes
- Can there be a fire area that is welcoming to all?
- The fire can be placed in different locations because it might need to be oriented in different directions, depending on the traditions of each tribe

Amphitheater space

- There should be two amphitheaters, one that is more permanent, and another that is more open and natural
- The surface needs to be friendly to the dancer's feet

Circles

- Two or more
- Small and large, movable

Overnight facilities

- The ideal scenario is a small permanent overnight facility.
- Depending on the size of the event, it might need to be augmented with portable facilities. It should be equipped for camping
- It needs to be near the event space
- There is a cultural and practical reason to have campsite near the amphitheater/performance space

Cooking facility

- Can be moved around the site
- Should be more than one
- Provide storage for portable cooking appliances

Trails

- Preexisting trails should be preserved
- Center has potential to have its own trails for interpretive purposes – educational and interpretation of native gardens.

Other events (not cultural or Indian related, i.e., fundraisers)

- about the grounds and facilities can host non-Indian events as long as the decision of who/when/how is properly managed.

Gambling

- There was a suggestion that the outdoor program should offer traditional Indian gambling facilities to offset the “Vegas-style” casino culture and preserve real Indian gambling

4. Final Presentations

Jacinta McCann (JM) addressed the participants and the public. JM expressed that the consultant team (CT) is grateful and appreciative of the hard work undertaken in the last two days. The target was to listen, learn, and develop a clearer vision of the program aspects of the project. Collectively, we will now move forward with the planning effort. As we go forward CT will continue to do work in close consultation with the Advisory Groups, building on the work that has been done in the last two days.

JM introduced the advisory group members by name to the public audience. Representatives from the Advisory Groups presented final remarks to the public, followed by a closing presentation and workshop summary by Ralph Appelbaum.

Closing Statements by Workshop Participants to the Public

Jack Norton — Interpretive Themes

- We must find a central theme
- We must find a way to tell the story differently — uniquely
- We must tell the story honestly
- We must emphasize the richness, beauty, and continuance of our people
- Baskets are our ancestry
- We must be iconic — What is iconic?
- It must be an Indian-governed effort
- We must learn from man’s inhumanity and become better human beings

Frank LaPena — Contemporary Arts and Collections Management

- We must look to the past to shape our future
- Art can function in the arena of meaning
- We must create an autonomous museum controlled by Indian people

Julie Holder — Libraries, Research, and Archives

- We need to reinvent, rebuild, and continue to tell stories
- A focus on unity and community — a collective consciousness

Closing Presentation and Workshop Summation by Ralph Appelbaum (RA)

RA opened with some ideas heard from the Advisory Groups over the two days:

- CIHC will heal the land
- CIHC will be an educational facility
- This is an opportunity for renewal

- CIHC will be honest, emotional, and tell extraordinary, personal stories
- The story is a testimony to the Indian people's capacity for survival
- *The story of the past is our future*

RA summarized the key messages from all the Advisory Groups:

Values

- Hearing California Indian voices and perspective
- Respect for nature
- Religion
- Value of spirituality
- Respect for people
- Indigenous stories continuum
- Honoring all

Diversity

- Encompass all tribes, honor diversity
- Environmental diversity
- Mutual Respect
- Relocation

Messages/Philosophy

- Testimony to survival as a people
- The past is our future
- This place will tell the truth, you will hear our voices; our perspectives
- We will hear the spirit of the land; we will heal the land
- We will respect the protocol of Indian law; Indian ways
- Caretakers — responsibility for the circle of life and the environment

Themes

- Baskets
- Seasons
- Oral tradition
- Cultural sovereignty
- Political sovereignty
- Circles
- Contemporary art
- Accessing records
- Honoring elders, cultures, veterans

Physicality

- Natural materials
- Native site (vegetation, wildlife, etc.) — the site is a native garden
- Temporal facilities — living and evolving
- Two outdoor gathering areas — one structured and one very natural
- Public areas and private areas and access
- Overnight facilities and support
- Accessible

5. Closing Remarks

Larry Myers, Chair of the CIHC Task Force, made the closing remarks to the participants and the public. LM expressed appreciation for all the hard work. People have made good suggestions and a great deal of commitment and emotion has been expressed.

LM informed the group that they would receive documentation of the proceedings. He encouraged everyone to review the documents to ensure that they adequately capture people's ideas and viewpoints. All feedback, comments, or issues should be shared with the Task Force (i.e., the Task Force liaison in your group), who will ensure that the comments are accurately conveyed to the consultants and the state.

LM stressed that the Task Force is leading the project. Advisory Group members must communicate with the Task Force to ensure that their ideas are properly represented. LM reinforced that Native People also need the support of others to get things done. It will not just be California Indians, but also the state legislature that will ensure that the project comes to fruition. LM encouraged people to ask their local legislators to stand behind CIHC to ensure that we have their support. LM said that there is a great deal of emotion behind this project.

Jack Norton closed the workshop proceedings with a traditional Hupa song.

ATTACHMENTS: NONE

NOTES PRODUCED BY: IP, RAA

DATE: JANUARY 18, 2006

END OF NOTES – WORKSHOP #1, DAY 2

NOTE: These notes represent understanding of the issues discussed and the agreements reached in the above-mentioned meeting. If no changes are made within 10 working days after the notes are issued, agreements expressed herewith will be considered final.